(3) Assistance to public libraries below district level for increasing accommodation.

(4) Assistance to State Central Libraries and District Libraries to acquire TV-cum-VCR sets for educational purposes.

(5) Assistance to voluntary organisations providing public library services.

(6) Assistance to children's libraries or children's section of general public libraries.

(7) Assistance to centrally sponsored libraries such as Jawahar Bal Bhavans, Nehru Yuvak Kendras etc.

[Translation]

Nursing Home Facility To Ex-MPs

3524. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ex-Members of Parliament are facing difficulties due to non-availability of nursing home facility in the Government hospitals;

(b) if so, whether a memorandum has also been submitted to the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) Nursing home facilities are available in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and G.B. Pant Hospital. Ex-Members of Parliament are allotted these facilities depending on the availability of rooms in above Hospitals.

A memorandum was presented by the Federation of Legislators of India on 20th August, 1996 and a meeting held with them by Government in this regard. The existing facilities for Ex-MPs was explained to them.

The Central Government have recognised certain private hospitals under the CGHS Delhi whereby all the CGHS beneficiaries including Ex-MPs can obtain treetment at the hospital of their choice.

Privatisation of Waterways

3525. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finally decided to hand over the construction work of new waterways and development of old ones to private sector in the country and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

IP Under Construction

3526. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several irrigation projects which were under construction in the country during December, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of projects out of them which are being implemented by the Government with foreign financial assistance;

(c) the number of projects among them which are lagging behind their original schedule of completion and the minimum and maximum duration of delay of the projects; and

(d) the target fixed for completion of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) As on December, 1996, 162 Major, 256 Medium and 107 Extension/Renovation Modernisation (ERM) Projects were under construction in the Country.

(b) Eleven Projects out of them are being implemented by the Government with foreign financial assistance.

(c) Generally a Major irrigation project is expected to take 10 to 15 years and a medium project five years for its completion. On this basis 107 major, 206 medium and 61 ERM Projects are lagging behind schedule. The maximum delay is in case of two major projects started in Ist Plan. The minimum delay is in the case of Major Projects started in VII Plan.

(d) It is assessed by the Working Group on Major and Medium Irrigation projects for IX Plan that apart from 9 major, 20 medium and 12 ERM projects reported to have been completed during the first four years of VIII Plan, another 29 major, 80 medium and 33 ERM projects are likely to be completed by the end of VIII Plan and the balance are likely to spill over.

Foreign Aid for Road Projects in Gujarat

3527. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted a list of important road projects before the

Union Government for their development with foreign aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal submitted by the Government of Gujarat is for the improvement of various categories of State roads with about 1500 kms. length. The Government of India has signed an agreement for loan amounting to US $ 51.50 million towards project preparation for road projects in various States, including the State of Gujarat.

Irregularities in Purchases

3528. PROF. AJIT KUMAR METHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious irregularities in the various purchases made by family welfare department were detected;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the loss suffered by the Government as a consequence thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Audit team had carried out the inspection of the files relating to the purchase of items required by the Deptt. of Family Welfare. Certain observations have been made by audit.

(b) and (c) This Department of Family Welfare is in the process of explaining the actions and offering comments on the observations of audit.

[Translation]

Allocation to Malaria Control Programme

3529. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total outlay earmarked for the eradication and control of Malaria during the current plan;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon under this programme during the past three years;

(c) the total budget outlay earmarked for this programme during 1995-96 and the amount spent out of it till December, 1996;

(d) the major heads of expenditure under this plan during the current year;

(e) whether the Malaria is again spreading in the country; and

(f) if so, whether changes are being made in this programme to deal with this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The total outlay earmarked for National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) during the eighth plan is Rs. 445.25 crores.

(b) Amount spent under NMEP during the past three years are as under :-

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in Crores)
1993-94	110.54
1994-95	110.00
1995-96	128.00

(c) The approved Budget outlay for 1995-96 was Rs. 128.00 crores. Expenditure upto December, 1996 was Rs. 97.86 crores against the provision of Rs. 145.00 crores in Budget Estimates 1996-97

(d) Major components of expenditure under the Programme during the current year have been procurement of insecticides, larvicides and anti-malarial drugs.

(e) and (f) Malaria incidence in the country has been contained around 2 to 3 million cases annually. However, focal outbreaks of malaria are being reported from some parts of the country. Besides existing Control strategies to effectively control the disease added emphasis is being given to Information, Education and Communication activities so as to enlist community support and participation for making Malaria Control activities a mass movement. 100% Central assistance is being provided to 7 North Eastern States to intensify anti-malaria activities in those States. Further, Government is negotiating an enhanced Malaria Control Project with World Bank assistance to intensify Control measures in malaria-endemic and tribal/backward areas of the country.

Treatment of Poor Patients in Private Nursing Homes

3530. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is provision for treatment of poor patients in private nursing homes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that these provisions are not being observed in parctice and fake entries are made only on papers; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?